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## DETACHED ANECDOTES, &amp;c.

## WELSH HONOURS.

AMONG the customs of the ancient Welsh, the following is by no means unworthy of being imitated by nations in a more advanced state of civilization. A Welshman was considered as honourable, if among his ancestors there had been neither slave, nor foreigner, nor infamous person; yet if any foreigner had saved the life of a Welshman, or delivered him from captivity, he might be naturalized, and was entitled to the rights of Welshmen. Any foreign family also, who had resided in Wales for four generations, was admitted to the same privileges.

## QUOTATIONS.

In Quotations, as in all other things, men have run into extremes. Some writers have quoted most abundantly, in order, as it should seem, to make a display of their learning. With one of these, La Mothe le Vayer was so much disgusted, that he could not avoid exclaiming, "God grant you to be less learned..." *Dieu vous fasse la grace de devenir moins savant.*

## FORCE OF IMAGINATION.

Fenius, in his treatise *de Viribus Imaginationis*, records the case of a man who fancied his body increased to such a size, that he durst not attempt to pass the door of his chamber. The physician, believing that nothing could more effectually cure this error of the imagination, than to shew that the thing could actually be done, caused the patient to be thrust forcibly through it: who struck with horror, and falling into agonies, complained of being crushed to pieces, and expired soon after. Reason, certainly, was not concerned here.

## HOGARTH.

In his picture of "The Miser's feast," Hogarth thought proper to pillory Sir Isaac Shard, a gentleman proverbially avaricious. The son of Sir Isaac, a young man of spirit just returned from his travels, on hearing this, called at the painter's to see the picture. Among the rest he enquired whether that odd figure was intended for any particular person: and on being told that it was

thought to be very like one Sir Isaac Shard, he immediately drew his sword and slashed the canvas. Hogarth instantly appeared in great wrath; to him Mr. Shard calmly justified what he had done, saying that this was a very unjustifiable licence, that he was the injured party's son, and that he was ready to defend any suit at law; such a suit, however, never was instituted.

## THE SAME.

We are told of a countryman in Ireland who directed a letter to his son, who was a student in Trinity College, in the following manner: "*To my son Jack in Dublin.*" An anecdote of the same kind is recorded, of the celebrated painter just mentioned. He once directed a letter to Dr. Hoadley thus, "*To the Doctor, at Chelsea.*" The epistle, however, by good luck, did not miscarry, and was preserved by one of his friends, as a pleasant memorial of the writer's extraordinary inattention.

## HIDALGOS.

The Hidalgos, or country-gentlemen of Spain, claim a descent from those valiant soldiers who retired into Castile, the mountains of Asturias, and other remote parts of Spain, on the invasion of the Moors, where, having fortified themselves, they successively descended into the plains, according to the good fortune of their arms.

They are generally classed in three divisions; the first comprehending such as were lords of places, villages, towns or castles, whence they took their surnames; as the Gusmans, Mendozas and others; the second, who recovered any fortress from the Moors, as the Ponces of Leon; and the third, from the places where they resided, or held jurisdiction as Roderigo de Narvaez, was called of Anteguera from being Alcayde there.

## QUIN AND GARRICK.

Quin could not conceal his disgust at the rising celebrity of Garrick on his first appearance in the theatrical world. After seeing him perform the character of Richard the third, his expression was "if this young fellow be right, I and all the other players have been wrong."

Upon being told that Goodman's fields theatre was crowded every night to see the young actor, he said, that Garrick was the founder of a new sect; Whitfield was followed for a time; but they would ail come to church again. Garrick on hearing this observation, retaliated by the following epigram.

Pope Quin, who damns all churches but his own,  
Complains that heresy infects the town;  
That Whitfield Garrick has misled the age,  
And taints the sound religion of the stage:  
Schism, he cries, has turn'd the nation's brain,  
But eyes will open, and to church again!  
Thou great infallible, forbear to roar,  
Thy bulls and errors are rever'd no more;  
When doctrines meet with general approbation,  
It is not heresy, but reformation.

#### BEARDS.

The wearing of beards appears, from the following anecdote, to have formerly been an exclusive privilege in some parts of Iceland. Between the years 1740 and 1750, it happened that two brothers dividing between one another the inheritance left them by their father, one of them gave his brother four rix-dollars for the exclusive right of wearing a beard; which right, in their family, was the sole prerogative of their late father.

#### RESPECT PAID TO BEARS.

The Ostiaks, a Finnish nation, believe that bears enjoy, after death, a degree of happiness at least equal to that which they expect for themselves. Whenever they kill one of these animals, they sing songs over him, in which they ask his pardon, and hang up his skin to which they show many

civilities, and pay many fine compliments to induce him not to take vengeance on them in the abode of spirits.

#### EARL OF HARDWICKE.

Mr. Justice Powis, when judge of assize at one of the circuits, being at dinner with many of the lawyers, among whom was this nobleman, then Mr. Yorke, took occasion to compliment him by expressing his surprize that so young a practitioner should have acquired so much business, "I cannot well account, Mr. Yorke," said he "for your having so much business, considering you have been so short a time at the bar; *I humbly conceive*," continued he, "you must have published some book, or are about publishing something; for *look you, do you see*, there is scarcely a cause before the court but you are employed in it: I should therefore be glad to know, *d'ye mind me*, Mr. Yorke, whether this is the case." The young lawyer replied that he had some idea of publishing a book, and, on the judge's pressing to know the subject, told him that he was turning Coke upon Lyttleton into verse. The judge who had not wit enough to perceive that his curiosity was played upon, was very importunate to hear some of them; upon which the other told him that at present he only recollected the first stanza, which he would repeat for his lordship's gratification, and proceeded as follows.

He that holdeth his lands in fee,  
Needs not for to quake, nor to shiver,  
For as *I conceive*, pray mark, do you see,  
They're his and his heir's, for ever.

The judge asked him no further questions.

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## ORIGINAL POETRY.

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### THE O'NIAL.

#### AN HISTORICAL POEM.

To those who are acquainted with Irish history, it will be unnecessary to give any explanation of the subject of the following Poem; few, however, have taken pains to make themselves acquaint-

ed with a subject so unfashionable, and, whilst descriptions of the manners of distant nations, ancient and modern, are sought after with avidity and studied with attention, every illustration of the state of Ireland, beyond the very period in which we live, is passed over as uninteresting.